

Trp-Lys/Arg-Aaa-Baa-Ser/Ala-Tyr/Phe-Caa-Gly (SEQ ID NO:1)

wherein Aaa, Baa and Caa indicate amino acid residues; Lys/Arg is an amino acid that is lysine or arginine; Ser/Ala is an amino acid that is serine or alanine; and Tyr/Phe is an amino acid that is tyrosine or phenylalanine; and

(b) contains no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues.

3. (Five Times Amended) A cell adhesion modulating agent that:

(a) comprises at least seven consecutive amino acid residues of a claudin CAR sequence, said claudin CAR sequence being present in a naturally occurring claudin and having the formula:

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wherein Aaa, Baa and Caa indicate amino acid residues; Lys/Arg is an amino acid that is lysine or arginine; Ser/Ala is an amino acid that is serine or alanine; and Tyr/Phe is an amino acid that is tyrosine or phenylalanine; and

(b) contains no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues.

4. (Three Times Amended) A cell adhesion modulating agent that:

(a) comprises at least eight consecutive amino acid residues of a claudin CAR sequence, said claudin CAR sequence being present in a naturally occurring claudin and having the formula:

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wherein Aaa, Baa and Caa indicate amino acid residues; Lys/Arg is an amino acid that is lysine or arginine; Ser/Ala is an amino acid that is serine or alanine; and Tyr/Phe is an amino acid that is tyrosine or phenylalanine; and

(b) contains no more than 50 consecutive amino acid residues.